

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EA-11 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

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TRSE-00 COME-00 STR-08 SCI-06 RSR-01 /154 W

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R 151545 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8790

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PFOR, UR, US

SUBJ: ZHUKOV US- SOVIET DETENTE

1. SUMMARY: WRITING IN PRAVDA MAY 15, YURIY ZHUKOV CAREFULLY SUMMARIZES SUPPORTATIVE ARGUMENTS FOR BREZHNEV' S CURRENT DETENTE INITIATIVES TOWARD US IN ARTICLE APPARENTLY DIRECTED NOT ONLY AT GENERAL AUDIENCE BUT ALSO AT THOSE WHO HAVE DOUBTS ABOUT WISDOM OF POLICY. ZHUKOV TOUCHES ON MOST LIKELY AREAS OF HARDLINE PROTESTATIONS INCLUDING CONTINUED AMERICAN BOMBING IN CAMBODIA, VIOLATIONS OF PARIS AGREEMENT IN VIETNAM , US SLOWNESS IN DELIVERING PROMISED MFN STATUS TO USSR AND EXPANDED ACTIVITY OF CAPITALIST COMPANIES IN USSR. ZHUKOV INVOKES LENIN TO DEMONSTRATE ADVANTAGES OF DETENTE AS WELL AS NEED TO BE VIGILANT. END SUMMARY.

2. PRAVDA POLITICAL COMMENTATOR YURIY ZHIKOV PAINSTAKINGLY TRACES RECENT DETENTE INITIATIVES OF SOVIET LEADERSHIP FORM LENIN TO " PEACE POLICY " OF 24 TH PARTY CONGRESS AND FOCUSES ON RECENT APPROVAL OF LATEST INITIATIVES BY APRIL PLENUM OF CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE. IMPROVEMENT OF RELATIONS WITH USA IS OF HIGHEST PRIORITY IN REALIZING THIS POLICY ACCORDING TO ZHUKOV.

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3. BREZHNEV'S UPCOMING VISIT TO THE US IN JUNE IS DESCRIBED AS OF GREAT SIGNIFICANCE. PROSPECTS FOR FURTHER IMPROVEMENT IN US- SOVIET RELATIONS ARE TERMED " REAL" IF BOTH COUNTRIES FOLLOWS GUIDELINES AGREED TO DURING NIXON'S MAY 1972 VISIT AND SET OUT IN JOINT US- SOVIET STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES.

4. DOUBTERS ARE MOST DIRECTLY ADDRESSED IN SECTION ENTITLED " THE LENINIST APPROACH." ACKNOWLEDGING THAT THERE ARE STILL POWERFUL CIRCLES ACROSS THE OCEAN WHO BELIEVE IN DEALING FROM " POSITION OF STRENGTH," ZHUKOV NEVERTHELESS INVOKES LENIN TO CALL FOR CONTRUCTIVE APPROACH TO WORLD PROBLEMS ALONG WITH FIRM RESISTANCE TO IMPERIALIST AGGRESSION, AND A READINESS TO DEVELOP MUTUALLY ADVANTAGEOUS RELATIONS WITH COUNTRIES HAVING DIFFERENT SOCIAL SYSTEMS WHILE MAINTAINING AN UNCOMPROMISING STANCE IN IDEOLOGICAL SPHERE.

5. SOVIET SENSITIVITY CONCERNING EXPANSION OF TRADE WITH CAPITALIST COMPANIES WAS REFLECTED IN " HISTORICAL FACTS" CITED BY ZHIKOV INDICATED LENIN'S EAGERNESS TO ESTABLISH TRADE WITH CAPITALIST COUNTRIES. ONE ITEM, APPARENTLY DIRECTED AT PRESENT LOWER- LEVEL BUREAUCRATIC OBSTRUCTIONISTS OF DETENTE, DESCRIBED HOW LENIN IN MARCH OF 1922 CHARGED HIS ASSISTANT TO FIND OUT PERSONALLY WHETHER VISAS TO AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN HAD BEEN GRANTED AS ORDERED AND, IF NOT, TO IDENTIFY THOSE SOVIET OFFICIALS RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS OBSTRUCTION SO THAT HE COULD METE OUT PUNISHMENT.

6. ZHUKOV LISTS VARIOUS AGREEMENTS ALREADY SIGNED WITH AMERICAN COMPANIES TO DEMONSTRATE INFUSIONS OF AMERICAN TECHNOLOGY ALREADY OBTAINED, AND SUGGESTS THAT HIS READERS NEED ONLY LOOK THROUGH NEWSPAPERS OF LAST MONTH TO SEE HOW FAR MUTUALLY ADVANTAGEOUS COOPERATION BETWEEN US AND USSR HAS ALREADY DEVELOPED.

7. ZHUKOV CONCLUDES WITH IDEOLOGICAL JUSTIFICATION, ASSERTING THAT GOVERNMENT AND PARTY ARE FAITHFULLY FOLLOWING FOREIGN POLICY BASED ON CLASS LINES, WHICH COMBINES NECESSARY FIRMNESS IN DEFENSE OF SOCIALIST INTERESTS WITH REQUIRED DIPLOMATIC FLEXIBILITY.

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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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